

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/820,886

Examiner

Phuoc Tran

Applicant(s)

IKEDA ET AL.

Art Unit

2624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to ____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-11.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 4/9/04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date ____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other ____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Lytle on 6/23/06. During the interview, it was agreed that claims 10 and 11 would be amended by an Examiner's Amendment to make the claims statutory under 35 U.S.C 101.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 10, line 1, before "program", insert --computer-readable storage medium storing a--.

In claim 11, line 1, before "storage", insert --computer-readable--.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Independent claim 1 requires "motion-information-outputting unit for outputting information of a horizontal moving distance in a line where the artificial image is present on a screen obtained from the input image signal; motion compensation unit for performing motion compensation on signal components of frames, which are present in timing before and after a current frame of the input image signal, based on the information of the moving distance output from the motion-information-outputting unit; detecting unit for detecting whether each pixel of a screen obtained from a signal component of the current frame of the input image signal is a pixel that is present at an edge

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position of the artificial image, based on the signal component of the current frame of the input image signal and the signal components, which have been compensated in terms of motion by the motion compensation unit, of the frames which are present in timing before and after the current frame of the input image signal; edge pixel extractor for extracting pixel data corresponding to the pixel of the edge position of the artificial image among items of pixel data constituting the signal component of the current frame of the input image signal, based on a detection result of the detecting unit; histogram processor for creating a histogram using the items of pixel data extracted by the edge pixel extractor and for obtaining data values of multiple items of color data that constitutes the pixel data corresponding to the artificial image, based on the histogram; extraction region selector for selecting an extraction region flag, said extraction region flag entering one state in accordance with the line where said artificial image is preset in the screen obtained by said input image signal; and extractor for extracting pixel data, from items of pixel data that constitute a signal component of a current frame of said input image signal, of the line by which said extraction region flag selected by said extraction region selector enters said one state, said pixel data of the line being constituted of multiple items of color data, said multiple items of color data each matching a data value obtained by said histogram processor, as the pixel data corresponding to the artificial image". Independent claims 8-11 require similar limitations. None of the prior art whether taken singly or in combination discloses the claim limitations. The prior art found are Kuwano et al and Kaneko et al. However, these references fail to disclose the claimed invention.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue


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fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Phuoc Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-7399. The examiner can normally be reached on MON-FRI.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew C. Bella can be reached on (571) 272-7778. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


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PRIMARY EXAMINER